IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

IN RE FRIEDMAN'S INC. SECURITIES LITIGATION

Civil Action No. 1:03 CV-3475-WSD

NOTICE OF AUTOMATIC STAY

Notice is hereby given that on Friday, January 14, 2005, Friedman's Inc. d/b/a Friedman's Jewelers ("Debtor") filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101, et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Georgia, Savannah Division, Case No. 05-40129 (the "Petition"). Pursuant to section 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the filing of the Petition operates as a stay, applicable to the Debtor of "the commencement or continuation, including the issuance or employment of process, of a judicial, administrative or other action or proceeding against the debtor that was or could have been commenced before the commencement of the case under this title, or to recover a claim against the debtor that arose before the commencement of the case under this title." Accordingly, pursuant to section 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, all proceedings in the abovestyled matter are stayed as to the Debtor.

Dated: January 24, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

For Friedman's Inc.:

By: /s/ Walter W. Davis

Michael J. McConnell

(Ga. Bar No. 485003)

Gregory R. Hanthorn

(Ga. Bar No. 323937)

Walter W. Davis

(Ga. Bar No. 213083)

Jones Day

1420 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 800

Atlanta, GA 30309-3053 Telephone: (404) 521-3939

Facsimile: (404) 581-8330

E-mail: mmcconnell@jonesday.com

and

Joseph P. Armao Lance Croffoot-Suede Paul M. Alfieri* White & Case LLP 1155 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036

Telephone: (212) 819-8200 Facsimile: (212) 354-8113

E-mail: palfieri@whitecase.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This certifies that I have this day electronically filed the within and foregoing **Notice of Automatic Stay** with the clerk of the court using CM/ECF system which automatically sends e-mail notification of such filing to the following attorneys of record:

ATTORNEYS FOR LEAD PLAINTIFFS AND PLAINTIFF:

CHITWOOD & HARLEY LLP Martin D. Chitwood

David A. Bain

Meryl W. Edelstein*
1230 Peachtree Street
2300 Promenade II
Atlanta, GA 30309

Telephone: (404)873-3900 Facsimile: (404) 876-4476 E-mail: mwe@classlaw.com

MILBERG WEISS BERSHAD & SCHULMAN LLP

Maya S. Saxena

Christopher S. Jones*

The Plaza

5355 Town Center Road, Suite 900

Boca Raton, Florida 33486 Telephone: (561) 361-5000 Facsimile: (561) 367-8400

E-mail: cjones@milbergweiss.com

SCHIFFRIN & BARROWAY LLP

Andrew L. Barroway*

Stuart L. Berman Gregory Castaldo Andrew L. Zivitz

Three Bala Plaza East, Suite 400

Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 Telephone: (610) 667-7706 Facsimile: (610) 667-7056

E-mail: abarroway@sbclasslaw.com

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS PHILIP COHEN, MORGAN SCHIFF & CO., INC., MS JEWELERS CORPORATION AND MS JEWELERS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP:

MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE, LLP

J. Timothy Mast, Esq.* Thomas B. Bosch, Esq.

McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP 303 Peachtree Street, Suite 5300

Atlanta, GA 30308

Telephone: (404) 527-4000 Facsimile: (404) 527-4198

E-mail: tmast@mckennalong.com

FOR UNDERWRITER DEFENDANTS THOMAS WEISEL PARTNERS LLC, MCDONALD INVESTMENTS, INC., JMP SECURITIES LLC, WEDBUSH MORGAN SECURITIES, INC. AND MORGAN JOSEPH & CO.:

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP

Robert A. Sacks*

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP 1888 Century Park East

Los Angeles, CA 90067-1725 Telephone: (310) 712-6600 Facsimile: (310) 712-8800 E-mail: sacksr@sullcrom.com

and

Amie D. Rooney

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP 1870 Embarcadero Road Palo Alto, CA 94303

Telephone: (650) 461-5600 Facsimile: (650) 461-5700

E-mail: rooneya@sullcrom.com

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP

A. Stephens Clay Stephen E. Hudson Kilpatrick Stockton LLP

1100 Peachtree Street Atlanta, GA 30309

Telephone: (404) 815-6500 Facsimile: (404) 815-6555

E-mail: shudson@kilpatrickstockton.com

FOR DEFENDANT DAVID P. PARSHALL:

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP Kenneth Conboy*

Jeffrey G. Hammel Lindsay R. Weiss

Latham & Watkins, LLP

885 Third Avenue, Suite 1000

New York, NY 10022 Telephone: (212) 906-1200 Facsimile: (212) 751-4862

E-mail: kenneth.conboy@lw.com

MORRIS MANNING & MARTIN Joseph R. Manning

John H. Williamson

Morris, Manning & Martin LLP 1600 Atlanta Financial Center 3343 Peachtree Road, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30326-1044 Telephone: (404) 233-7000 Facsimile: (404) 365-9532

E-mail: jmanning@mmmlaw.com

DEFENDANT DOUGLAS ANDERSON:

ROGERS & HARDIN Tony G. Powers*

Kimberly L. Myers Rogers & Hardin

2700 International Tower

Peachtree Center

229 Peachtree Street, N.E.

Atlanta, GA 30303

Telephone: (404) 522-4700

Facsimile: (404) 525-2224 E-mail: tgp@rh-law.com

DEFENDANT ERNST & YOUNG:

SUTHERLAND, ASBILL & BRENNAN LLP

John A. Chandler Elizabeth V. Tanis* Patricia A. Gorham

Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP

999 Peachtree Street Atlanta, GA 30309

Telephone: (404) 853-8000 Facsimile: (404) 853-8806 E-mail: beth.tanis@sablaw.com

FOR DEFENDANTS JOHN E. CAY, III, ROBERT W. CRUICKSHANK AND MARK C. PICKUP:

ALSTON & BIRD LLP

John L. Latham John A. Jordak, Jr.* Julie M. O'Daniel Alston & Bird LLP

1201 West Peachtree Street

Atlanta, GA 30309

Telephone: (404) 881-7000 Facsimile: (404) 881-7913 E-mail: jjordak@alston.com

FOR DEFENDANT BRADLEY J. STINN:

GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP

Wayne A. Schrader* Lani C. Cossette

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP 1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-5306 Telephone: (202) 955-8500

Facsimile: (202) 467-0539

E-mail: wschrader@gibsondunn.com

KUTAK ROCK LLP

Gregory R. Crochet Kutak Rock LLP

Suite 2100

Peachtree Center South Tower

225 Peachtree Street, NE Atlanta, GA 30303-1731 Telephone: (404) 222-4635 Facsimile: (404) 222-4654

E-mail: greg.crochet@kutakrock.com

FOR DEFENDANT STERLING BRINKLEY:

ROPES & GRAY

Randall W. Bodner*

Ropes & Gray

One International Place Boston, MA 02110-2624 Telephone: (617) 951-7000 Facsimile: (617) 951-7050

E-mail: rbodner@ropesgray.com

and

Michele Cerezo-Natal

Ropes & Gray

45 Rockefeller Plaza New York, NY 10111

Telephone: (212) 841-5700 Facsimile: (212) 841-5725

E-mail: mnatal@ropesgray.com

PARKER HUDSON RAINER & DOBBS

J. Marbury Rainer

Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs

1500 Marquis Two Tower285 Peachtree Center Avenue

Atlanta, GA 30303

Telephone: (404) 523-5300 Facsimile: (404) 522-8409 E-mail: mrainer@phrd.com

FOR DEFENDANT VICTOR M. SUGLIA:

Walter E. Jospin John G. Parker

Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP

600 Peachtree Street

Bank of America Building

Atlanta, GA 30308

Telephone: (404) 815-2400 Facsimile: (404) 815-2424

E-mail: walterjospin@paulhastings.com

and

Kirby D. Behre* Melissa G. Warren

Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP

875 15th Street N.W, Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 551-1700 Facsimile: (202) 551-1705

E-mail: kirbybehre@paulhastings.com

FOR DEFENDANT JOHN MAURO:

LECLAIR RYAN

James A. Murphy*

Cameron S. Matheson

LeClair Ryan

707 East Main Street, 11th Floor

Richmond, VA 23219

Telephone: (804) 783-2003 Facsimile: (804) 783-2294

E-mail: jmurphy@leclairryan.com

GAMBRELL & STOLZ LLP

Gary A. Barnes, Esq.

Gambrell & Stolz, LLP

Monarch Plaza

3414 Peachtree Road, N.E., Suite 1600

Atlanta, GA 30326

Telephone: (404) 577-6000 Facsimile: (404) 221-6501

E-mail: gbarnes@gambrell.com

FOR DEFENDANT ABN AMRO ROTHSCHILD LLC:

CADWALADER, WICKERHSHAM & TAFT LLP

Gregory A. Markel*
Jason M. Halper
Stacey A. Lara

Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, LLP

One World Financial Center

New York, NY 10281

Telephone: (212) 504-6000 Facsimile: (212) 504-6600 E-mail: greg.markel@cwt.com

NATIONS, TOMAN, NUTTER & MCKNIGHT LLP

Charles K. McKnight, Jr.

Nations, Toman, Nutter & McKnight LLP 3340 Peachtree Road, N.E., Suite 1550

Atlanta, GA 30326

Telephone: (404) 266-2366 Facsimile: (404) 266-2323

E-mail: cmcknight@ntnmlaw.com

Dated: January 24, 2005.

/s/ Walter W. Davis

Michael J. McConnell (Ga. Bar No. 485003) Gregory R. Hanthorn (Ga. Bar No. 323937)

Walter W. Davis

(Ga. Bar No. 213083)

JONES DAY

1420 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 800

Atlanta, GA 30309-3053 Telephone: (404) 521-3939 Facsimile: (404) 581-8330

E-mail: mmcconnell@jonesday.com